

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter comprising: a handle; a plurality of pistons disposed in the handle; cavities proximate the pistons for pressurizing the pistons; air supply passages in communication with the cavities for supplying air to the cavities to pressurize the pistons; and a piston rod threadably engaged with at least one of the pistons such that an air passage is provided at the engagement whereby air can pass between the piston rod and the piston, said piston rod providing at least one orifice for allowing passage of air between the piston rod and the cavities and having a longitudinal bore therethrough configured to receive a spent mandrel.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of pistons disposed in the handle comprises a front piston and a rear piston, wherein the piston rod extends through the front piston and is securably engaged with the rear piston.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of pistons disposed in the handle comprises three pistons.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a deflector fitting disposed at an end of the nut-plate riveter.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, wherein the piston rod is cylindrical and includes orifices which are configured to allow the passage of air.

Serial No.: 10/731,219

Art Unit: 3725

Page 3

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a bulkhead which engages an exterior surface of one of the pistons and contacts a wall in the handle.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a trigger on the handle for actuating the ~~nut-plate~~ riveter.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a front cap sub-assembly comprising a front cap and a bumper member disposed in the front cap, wherein an end of said handle is configured to receive the front cap sub-assembly.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 8, wherein the front cap threadably engages the end of the handle.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a pulling head which is engaged with said piston rod.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 10, wherein said pulling head comprises a nose fitting, a sleeve and a drawbar, said sleeve being threadably engaged with said nose fitting, said drawbar being disposed in said sleeve and threadably engaged with said piston rod.

Serial No.: 10/731,219

Art Unit: 3725

Page 4

12. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 11, wherein said pulling head further comprises a jaw follower sub-assembly and a jaw set, said jaw follower sub-assembly being disposed in the drawbar and contactably engaged with said jaw set.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut-plate~~ riveter as recited in claim 12, wherein said pulling head further comprises a follower spring, said jaw follower sub-assembly engaged with said follower spring, said follower spring being engaged with an interior surface of the piston rod.

Serial No.: 10/731,219

Art Unit: 3725

Page 5